Commission will widen the disparity in income between the Government employees and private employees;

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure payment of stipulated wages/salary by Private organisations to its employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Salaries payable to Government employees are determined by Government from time to time, while those payable to employees working in the private sector are negotiated and settled between the concerned employers and employees. The appropriate Government only fixes minimum wages as per provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 with respect to certain categories of workers who work in the notified scheduled employments in the private sector. Parity between wages and salaries of Government employees and of employees working in the private sector does not exist and is also not attempted.

Minting of Coins

6172. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number coins imported and minted in the Indian Mints during the last three years separately;

(b) the reasons for importing blanks coins;

(c) the expenditure incurred by the Government on import. year-wise;

(d) the concrete steps being taken by the Government for minting of these coins in the Indian Mints;

(e) whether the Government propose to import coins in large quantities during the current year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR)

(a) No coins have been imported during the last three years. The coins minted in the Government Mints during the last three years as under:-

Year	In million pieces (approx)
1994-95	1707
1995-96	1450
1996-97	1566

(b) The coin blanks are being imported to meet the gap between blanks made in our Mints and the requirement of blanks for making coins.

(c) The expenditure incurred on import of coin blanks during the last three years are as under:-

Year	In crores (approx)
1994-95	Rs. 39.65
1995-96	Rs. 66.91
1996-97	Rs. 76.10

(d) The Government Mints at Mumbai, Calcutta and Hyderabad are being modernised to increase their capacity to make blanks and coins.

(e) and (f) : As a one time measure, the Government has decided to import 700 million peices of Re. 1/- coins and 300 million pieces of Rs. 2/- coins.

[Translation]

State Electricity Boards

6173. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any decision for waiving off the power tariff outstanding against the State Electricity Boards and Public Undertakings;

(b) if so, the total amount likely to be waived off; and

(c) the details of authority. State Electricity Board and Public Undertaking who has recommended the waiving off this amount ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

DDA

6174. SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the aims and objectives for which DDA was set up;

(b) the extent to which the aims and objectives have been fulfilled;

(c) whether the expenditure incurred on basic structure by DDA is included in the price of flats sold to persons who got their names registered all over India;

(d) if so, the rationale behind it; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to divest DDA from the responsibility of constructing the flats and constitute a separate housing corporation for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Delhi Development Authority was set up under the Delhi Development Act, 1957. As per the Act, the aims and objectives of the DDA are :